



## **Tips for** Grandparents *who are* Raising Grandchildren in Illinois

These simple suggestions have been developed by the Task Force on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in Illinois to assist older adult caregivers in their efforts to provide quality care for their family's children. The Task Force can be reached through the Illinois Department on Aging's toll-free Senior HelpLine, **1-800-252-8966** (Voice and TTY).

### **What is the Circuit Breaker Program?**

The program may give you back some of the money paid in property taxes, mobile home taxes, rent, or nursing home charges. It also can help pay for certain prescription medicines that you may need.

### **How do I qualify for a Circuit Breaker Grant?**

To qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

1. You must have been 65 years of age or older before January 1, 2002; or You must become 65 years of age during 2002 (for a partial grant); or You must be a widow or widower who turned 63 years of age before the deceased claimant's death; and
2. You must have lived in an Illinois residence in 2001 that was subject to property or mobile home tax; and
3. You must live in Illinois at the time you file the claim for relief; and
4. You must file Form IL-1363, Circuit Breaker and Pharmaceutical Assistance Claim, postmarked on or before December 31, 2002.

### **What if I turn age 65 during 2002?**

If you turn 65 years of age during 2002, you may be eligible for a partial Circuit Breaker Grant for those months you were 65. You may submit a claim form during the month of your birthday. The Illinois Department of Revenue cannot pay grants before that month. If you are applying for a partial Circuit Breaker Grant, you are not eligible for Pharmaceutical Assistance coverage.

## Did you know?

Those eligible for the program can renew their license plates for \$24!

Circuit Breaker	Effective 1/1/2000
Income Eligibility for prescription drugs, tax rebate and licenses plates.	\$21,218 for 1 person household \$28,480 for 2 person household <b>You must meet this criteria to file for the Circuit breaker!</b>
Coverage Cap	\$2,000 per year. After \$2,000 annual cap - you pay 20% of the cost of the drug
Enrollment Fee	\$5 under the federal poverty level \$25 above the federal poverty level
Deductibles/co-pays	\$0 under federal poverty level \$3/prescription above federal poverty (federal poverty level: \$8,350 for individual and \$11,250 for a couple)
Diseases Covered	Lung disease, smoking related illnesses, glaucoma, cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, osteoporosis, heart/blood pressure, arthritis, and diabetes
Age of Eligibility	65 <sup>th</sup> birthday - <b>no waiting period</b> and must show proof of age
Basis for Income Eligibility	Current year income from all sources (SS, SSI, wages, income taxes)
Generic/Brand Name	Brand names permitted for limited list of drugs if prescriber considers medically necessary
Intake/Outreach/Public	Department of Revenue - Intake Department on Aging - Intake Outreach, & Public Information

The Illinois Department on Aging can provide you or direct you to needed information about this and other programs.

For more information call:  
Illinois Department on Aging Senior HelpLine  
1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY)